



Issue 12: March 24, 2021

Our club welcomes all visitors. Why not join us either by zoom and in person on Wednesday mornings?



**Rotary Opens Opportunities**

## MEETING TIME/LOCATION:

7:30-8:30 am on Wednesdays  
Dunedin Golf Club, 1050 Palm Blvd.

## MAILING ADDRESS:

PO Box 307, Dunedin, FL 34697  
The Rotary Club of Dunedin North  
(Club #4270) was chartered on  
November 21, 1971.

**Doing good.  
Having FUN!**

**Don't forget to check out  
Facebook and Twitter!  
Post your own pictures  
and news items.**



Find out more about our club:  
**DunedinNorthRotary.org**

## Meeting Notes from March 17, 2021

**Steve Schwartz** returned in person as a guest on the way to becoming a full member. He moved here in November from Macon, GA, and likes our club and members. Shaun Riley Zoomed for corporate member Brightway Insurance. **Teresa Cordova O'Dea** reminded us that we are what we think so we should think about who we want to be and act that way. **Welch Agnew** attended in person and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sgt-at-Arms Pat was MIA so Num-Num Kert Rhodes filled in. **Welch** was first with the happy bucks and thought getting back in person was worth \$2, plus the chance to rid himself of PHF pins and certificates belonging to others attending in-person (when teased about not calling on his iPhone, Welch admitted his phone was so old it had a "Rotary" dial). **Chuck Jordan** also paid \$2 for St. Paddy's Day, which is two days before another national holiday (his birthday). **John Tornga** was happy to see Welch, and admitted when Teresa said to think about who we wanted to be, he wanted to be "Drinkin' with Dick." **Gary Coughlin** was happy to be present in person, because his son is on spring break. **Jay Pitts** is happy his son signed a contract to join the Navy and heads out 1 month after graduation. **JoAnn Rooney** is sorry to hear that Shaun's father passed away but happy that her daughter is engaged after 5 long years. **Kert Rhodes** related that he arrived at 7:04 am to help Prez Mark set up, but both were stuck outside until the doors were finally unlocked at 7:20. Kudos to the hustle by Kert, Mark and Candice that allowed us to start on time. Prez **Mark Middleton** attended the first district international committee meeting last Friday. He also is having a great year in real estate with \$50 of every closing going to The Rotary Foundation, with \$5000 donated so far this year. His team thinks they can do better and set up a website for a raffle with a prize of a meal for 10 by the Mystic Fish chef. Mark's team will pay expenses. To finish, Mark played a video on water purification efforts in Kibera, a slum area in Nairobi with 1-million people. As Mark says, water is life!



Our program focused on the **strategic planning session**, with presentations by Prez Mark, PE John and PE Gary. The planning sessions compiled strengths, weaknesses, threats and opportunities for our club. From this, the team came up with 3 guiding goals: 1) Create a club that our members love; 2) Empower our members where we can create lasting change for both our members and those we serve; 3) Grow our club in order that we are improving and empowering not only our club but the services we provide.

To do this, committees that fell by the wayside during Covid-19 will be put back in place: Membership, Service, Fundraising, and Public Relations. Our weekly meetings resume in person on April 7, with the continued option to Zoom. Each month will have a program related to the RI monthly theme, with a local focus one week and an international focus another week. One meeting will have a Rotary focus. The last meeting will celebrate those with birthdays. Committee reports will be presented at the beginning of each quarter.

Welch wanted to unload the **PHF prizes**, with many receiving multiple-stone pins, some with sapphire and some with rubies. Our biggest "rock" star is Pres Mark, shown at right with Welch.



Prez Mark closed as always with **The "5-Way" Test** with #5 being "Is it FUN?"

## Monthly Themes of Rotary

Most of us are familiar with the reference to the “Twelve Days of Christmas” but did you know about the “Eleven Months of Rotary?” Rotary has identified a theme for each month except July. July is the first month of the Rotary year and is when the annual theme kicks in. This year’s annual theme is “Serve to Change Lives.”

The monthly themes are meant to highlight the wide range of Rotary’s good work and give clubs some suggestions, timing, and guidance for their programs and activities.

Here’s the list:

July – Serve to Change Lives—2021-2022 theme  
August – Membership and New Club Development  
September – Basic Education and Literacy  
October – Community Economic Development  
November – Rotary Foundation  
December – Disease Prevention and Treatment  
January – Vocational Service  
February – Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention  
March – Water, Sanitation and Hygiene  
April – Maternal and Child Health  
May – Youth Service  
June – Rotary Fellowships

## LaunchRaleigh highlighted in *The Rotarian*

Have you ever picked up an issue of *The Rotarian* to discover that a person or area you know well is featured? It happened to me, Sherrie Davis Kinkead, in the April 2021 issue. While I didn’t know the specific people, I did know the area, the schools and the Rotary clubs by name and felt proud that my former district made such a great impact on Southeast Raleigh. But more importantly, it whetted a desire that we could do the same thing here in Pinellas. LaunchDetroit helped germinate LaunchRaleigh, both programs that help budding entrepreneurs by focusing on education, mentorship, small loans and networking. To find out more, visit the website they created: LaunchMyCity, which outlines everything a club needs to carry out the program. Think about the resources we have in our county and if we can do something like this.

## Accidental email shows the power of Rotary

Matthew Kane from the Rotary Club of North Raleigh received a misdirected email about enormous supplies of rice from the Rise Against Hunger non-profit sitting in a warehouse 90 miles away. After reading the email, he talked his club into buying the 8400 lbs. of rice, which was transported to a fellow Rotarian’s garage, then repackaged by his church, fellow Rotarians and neighbors into 5 lb. packages for the local food banks.

A month later, after downtown Raleigh experienced broken windows following protests over the George Floyd killing, he decided to replicate a 2005 “racial study circle” project of his predominantly White church with members of a Black church to talk about issues of race in a safe space. For 5 consecutive weeks, 4 groups of 10 (5 white, 5 people of color) Zoomed together for 90 minutes answering questions such as, “What did you learn about race from your parents.” And they listened, with no shaming, no blaming.

## Speaking of locals...

We all know the dangers of monofilament line used by recreational fishermen when not properly disposed of. Marine life, particularly birds and sea turtles, but also sea mammals and divers, are at risk of peril. To address this in the Keys, the Rotary Club of Upper Keys used \$2000 from their Foundation and installed collection bins at popular angling spots along a 50-mile stretch, adding 40 bins to the 35 already in place.

## Of note from the Board Meeting

The **minutes and financial reports** were approved. We’ve been running behind on posting the minutes in the secure document section on the DACdb, but will try to catch up. If anyone wants a copy before then, please let an officer know.

A **financial committee**, soon to be established, will make recommendations on what we should do with money currently residing in a CD, earning only pennies.

While we are determined to have **meetings with breakfast** served, the Dunedin Golf Club is having problems hiring staff. This may affect what we serve. The option to meet at another location was not considered, as most members didn’t want this option last year when Covid-19 changed everything.

**Drinkin’ With Dick** returns in April. While the board discussed April 8, host John Tornga has a conflict with his schedule. The event moved to April 22.

Our members are stepping up to the challenge of filling committee chairs. So far, **Gary Coughlin** is membership chair, **Mark Middleton** is Service chair, with Michael Smith serving on his committee. **Robin Kocher** agreed to be PR chair.

**Steve Schwartz** received approval by the board to be presented for membership to our club. An email notice went to all members, and we look forward to having him as an official member in the near future.

**Drinkin’ with Dick  
@ Casa Tornga**

**April 22–5:30 pm until...**

**Family, friends and  
pets welcome.**